

STIMULUS WATCH: WEEK 36

\$71,623 in Stimulus Funds for Monkey Business

- The University of Wake Forest is spending \$71,623 in taxpayer funds to study the effects of cocaine addiction on monkeys. Civitas Institute, a North Carolina conservative think tank, has ranked this project as the worst stimulus project in the state.
- Mark Wright, spokesman for the Wake Forest University School of Medicine, said that this study is the “continuation of a job.” Thus, the study pays for exactly one job—or at least the “continuation” of exactly one job.
- Winston-Salem, home of Wake Forest, has a 10% unemployment rate. Lee Price, a resident of Winston-Salem who has been unemployed for over a year, is not happy about the expenditure: "I'm just thinking it's money that is supposed to be spent toward improving something—not for... monkeys."
- Under the House Republican Stimulus Alternative, taxpayer funds would not be spent studying the effects of illegal drugs on monkeys. Instead, Republicans would have created twice as many jobs at half the cost. To learn how visit: <http://republicanwhip.house.gov/Jobs/>
- **Sources:**
<http://www.myfox8.com/wghp-civitas-stimulus-waste-100303,0,7142249.story>
<http://www.miamiherald.com/2010/03/08/1518528/stimulus-funds-pay-for-monkey.html>
<http://www.bls.gov/web/laumstrk.htm>

The Washington Watch Report is available on the House Republican Whip's website: <http://republicanwhip.house.gov/blog/wwindex.html>

It is updated weekly with new items of wasteful stimulus spending, a look at jobs created by the stimulus.